

RESOLUTION No. 16-435

WHEREAS, the City Council and the Mayor of the City of Huntsville, Alabama are apprised that the 2016 Arthur and Pearl Robinson Annual Family Reunion will be held during the weekend of July 7-10, 2016, in Huntsville, Alabama; and,

WHEREAS, the genesis of the Arthur and Pearl Robinson family began in 1907 when Arthur and Pearl Hopkins Robinson were united in marriage. This family has been rooted in Alabama for over 100 years. Arthur was a native of Birmingham. Pearl was from Montgomery. From this happy union fourteen children were born. They were Arthur, Jr., Oscar (Phil), Raymond, Marshall, Nathaniel, Pearlie Mae, Ruth, Robert, Mildred, Ida, Tommie, Odessa, Calvin, and Marion, as well as an adopted daughter Lucy Mae. Today, there are more than 250 descendants of Arthur and Pearl Robinson. Arthur and Pearl's children affectionately called them "Papa" and "Mama". The grandchildren referred to them as "Big Papa" and "Big Mama". Arthur died on January 31, 1955. Pearl died on December 23, 1961; and,

WHEREAS, one of the prominent members of our family, the late Reverend James Orange, was a Civil Rights activist and worked closely with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC). James, upon graduating from Parker High School in Birmingham made a commitment to make life better for African Americans and by demanding that we, as of God's children, be given the same civil rights and opportunities as white Americans. He served as a key aide to the late Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. He was at Dr. King's side for almost every major event during the civil rights movement, and he was with him when he was assassinated in Memphis, Tennessee on April 4, 1968. James resided in Atlanta until his death on February 16, 2008. Reverend Orange has a City park named in his honor in Atlanta, Georgia; and,

WHEREAS, reunion events in Huntsville include a welcome party at the Omega Center on Import Circle, Shopping and Dining at Bridge Street Town Centre, tours of historic Huntsville sites, a family banquet at the Bob Harrison Center, and a picnic at Brahan Springs Park. Some 100 family members are expected to attend from as far west as Southern California to as far north as upstate New York.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council and Mayor of the City of Huntsville, Alabama, do hereby acknowledge, congratulate, and extend best wishes to the descendants of Arthur and Pearl Robinson on the event of their annual family reunion. May you have continued success in all future endeavors.

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PAGE 2 OF 2

ADOPTED this the 23rd day of June, 2016.

President of the City Council of the
City of Huntsville, Alabama

APPROVED this the 23rd day of June, 2016.

Mayor of the City of Huntsville, Alabama